

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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DOT-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02 SS-15 NSC-05

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FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6033 PRIORITY

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USREP ICAO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORC, PINS, EAIR, ICAO

SUBJECT: COUNCIL MEETING ON STRENGTHENING MEASURES FOR COUN-
TERING UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE

REF: STATE 45810 AND PREVIOUS

SUMMARY; IN MEETING MAR 3 COUNCIL INITIATED CONSIDERATION
OF ISRAELI PROPOSALS FOR ADDITIONAL MEASURES TO IMPROVE
SECURITY OF INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION (WP/6125). IN INIT-
IAL PERIOD ARAB SPOKESMAN RESPONDED TO THE ISRAELI REFERENCE
TO TERRORISTS AND INCIDENTS IN ITS WRITTEN COMMUNICATION.
COUNCIL THEN SORTED OUT SEVERAL ITEMS AS OUTSIDE THE SCOPE
OF ICAO. FOUR OF THE PROPOSALS WERE REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE
ON UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE, AND SEVERAL OTHERS WERE DEFERRED
FOR CONSIDERATION AT END OF DELIBERATION (RE A LETTER TO
STATES). COUNCIL WILL TAKE UP REMAINDER OF ISRAELI ITEMS
AND US PROPOSAL IN ITS MEETING MAR 5. STAGE APPEARS TO BE
SET FOR COUNCIL DECISION TO ISSUE A STATE LETTER ON THE
RESULTS OF THE MEETINGS.

1. ISRAELI DELEGATION HEAD AMB MERON INTRODUCED ISRAELI
PAPER IN BRIEF, TECHNICALLY ORIENTED STATEMENT WHICH MADE
NO MENTION OF SPECIFIC INCIDENTS EXCEPT FOR ORLY, BUT WHICH
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EMPHASIZED NEED FOR STRENGTHENING OF MEASURES TO COMBAT

DETERIORATION OF AIR SECURITY. HE ASKED THAT PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN PARAS 2.(1) AND (2) ON ISSUANCE OF A CALL TO STATES TO IMPROVE SECURITY MEASURES BE PUT OFF UNTIL AFTER THE COUNCIL HAD DISCUSSED THE REMAINDER OF THE ISRAELI PROPOSALS. LEBANON REP ABOUCHACRA PRESUMABLY ACTING AS ARAB SPOKESMAN, MADE INITIAL INTERVENTION BY ACCUSING THE ISRAELIS OF LOOKING ON THE THREAT TO AIR SECURITY PURELY FROM A REGIONAL VIEW-POINT BY ITS REFERENCE ONLY TO "TERRORISTS". HE CITED CASES IN WHICH ISRAEL HAD ATTACKED CIVIL AVIATION. AMB MERON INTERRUPTED TO ASK IF THE MEETING WAS CONVENED FOR STERILE DISCUSSION OR TO DISCUSS AIR SECURITY. THE PRES SAID HE HOPED THE DISCUSSION WOULD BE CONFINED TO THE WORKING PAPER. ABOUCHACRA REPLIED THAT HE WAS IN FACT ONLY REFERRING TO WHAT THE ISRAELIS HAD SAID IN DOCUMENTATION THEY HAD PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL. HE THEN READ PRESS STORY ON YEMEN SENTENCING A HIJACKER TO DEATH TO DEMONSTRATE THAT ARAB STATES WERE SERIOUS ABOUT COMBATING UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE. ISRAEL MADE NO FURTHER INTERVENTION AND THE COUNCIL PROCEEDED TO EXAMINE THE WORKING PAPER. EGYPT REQUESTED THAT A STATUTORY MAJORITY OF 16 BE REQUIRED ON ALL VOTES. THE PRES SAID THIS WOULD APPLY EXCEPT IN PROCEDURAL VOTES TO PREFER ITEM TO COMMITTEES.

2. IN DEBATE THAT FOLLOWED, COUNCIL TOOK THE FOLLOWING ACTION; ITEMS 2.(1), (2) AND (3) AND 3.(9) WERE DEFERRED FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE END OF THE ISRAELI PAPER. ITEM 2.(4) WAS "NOTED" AS AN EXISTING PROCEDURE BY A SHOW OF HANDS 15(US) FOR. ITEM 2.(5) WAS "DEFERRED" INDEFINITELY BUT THE SEC GEN COULD COME UP WITH SUGGESTIONS.. -3.(1) AND (2) WERE DEFERRED FOR LATER CONSIDERATION AFTER SOME DEBATE ON WHETHER LONG RANGE WEAPONS OR ANY WEAPONS WERE WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF ICAO. -3.(3) FAILED TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE BY A VOTE OF 9(US) FOR TO 15 AGAINST, ON THE BASIS THAT THE ITEM WAS TIED TO THE GENERAL HEADING OF LONG RANGE WEAPONS. -3.(4) FAILED TO BE REFERRED OR NOTED WHEN A VOTE OF ONLY 11(US) IN FAVOR AND NONE AGAINST (LACKED STATUTORY MAJORITY). THE DISCUSSION CENTERED ON THE FACT THAT THE SECRETARIAT WAS IN FACT CONSIDERING AIR SECURITY AS IT CONTINUOUSLY HAS UNDER REVIEW THE MANUAL ON AIRPORT PLANNING AT SUGGESTION OF LEBANON REP, -3.(5), UNCLASSIFIED

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(6),(7), AND (8) WERE REFERRED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO COMMITTEE ON UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE FOR STUDY AND REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL. -3.(9) AT US SUGGESTION WAS DEFERRED FOR ACTION UNTIL END OF PAPER WHEN COUNCIL WILL CONSIDER A CALL TO STATES. THE DISCUSSION EMPHASIZED CONCERN FOR THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE SECURITY MANUAL. COUNCIL ADJOURNED UNTIL 1430 MARCH 5.

3. STAGE IS SET FOR COUNCIL (A) TO CONSIDER THE REMAINDER

OF THE ISRAELI PROPOSALS WITH CERTAIN OF THEM REFERRED TO
CUI; (B) TO REFER US PROPOSAL ON TOTO TO CUI; AND (TO AUTHORIZE
THE PRES AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE A STATE LETTER RELATING COUNCIL
ACTIONS IN THIS FIELD AND URGING STATES TO EXAMINE THEIR OWN
MEASURES. FRGREP HAS AGREED TO PROPOSE LETTER AND UK OR
CANADA WILL SUPPORT. COUNCIL WILL ASK TO APPROVE TEXT OF STATE
LETTER MAR 7 OR 10). HARPER

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